

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) Surface-modified effect pigments based on flake-form substrates, characterised in that they are sheathed with one or more layers of immobilised LCST and/or UCST polymers.
2. (Original) Surface-modified effect pigments according to Claim 1, characterised in that the polymer sheath has layer thicknesses of 2 – 500 nm.
3. (Currently Amended) Surface-modified effect pigments according to Claim 1 ~~or 2~~, characterised in that the LCST polymers are selected from the group consisting of the polyalkylene oxide derivatives, olefinically modified PEO-PPO copolymers, polymethyl vinyl ether, poly-N-vinylcaprolactams, ethyl(hydroxyethyl)celluloses, poly(N-isopropylacrylamides) and polysiloxanes, and mixtures thereof.
4. (Currently Amended) Surface-modified effect pigments according to Claim 1 ~~or 2~~, characterised in that the UCST polymers are selected from the group consisting of the polystyrenes, polystyrene copolymers and polyethylene oxide copolymers, or mixtures thereof.
5. (Currently Amended) Surface-modified effect pigments according to ~~one of~~ ~~Claims 1 to 3~~ Claim 1, characterised in that the LCST polymer is a polysiloxane modified with olefinic groups.
6. (Currently Amended) Surface-modified effect pigments according to ~~one of~~ ~~Claims 1 to 5~~ Claim 1, characterised in that the polymer sheath additionally comprises nanoparticles, polymerisable monomers, plasticisers, antioxidants, carbon-black particles, microtitantium or mixtures thereof.
7. (Original) Surface-modified effect pigments according to Claim 6, characterised in that the polymer sheath comprises 0.001 to 150% by weight of additives, based on the polymer employed.

8. (Currently Amended) Surface-modified effect pigments according to ~~one of~~
~~Claims 1 to 7~~ Claim 1, characterised in that the effect pigments are
holographic pigments, pearlescent pigments, interference pigments,
multilayered pigments, metal-effect pigments, goniochromatic pigments and/or
BiOCl pigments.
9. (Original) Surface-modified effect pigments according to Claim 8,
characterised in that the effect pigments are based on natural or synthetic mica,
 Al_2O_3 flakes, TiO_2 flakes, SiO_2 flakes, Fe_2O_3 flakes, glass flakes, ceramic
flakes or graphite flakes.
10. (Original) Process for the production of surface-modified effect pigments
according to Claim 1, characterised in that the LCST and/or UCST polymer is
applied to the pigment surface by precipitation in water and/or an organic
solvent and and irreversibly immobilised.
11. (Original) Process according to Claim 10, characterised in that conventional
additives are added to the polymer.
12. (Original) Use of the surface-modified effect pigments according to Claim 1 in
surface coatings, water-borne coatings, powder coatings, paints, printing inks,
security printing inks, plastics, concrete, in cosmetic formulations, in
agricultural sheeting and tarpaulins, for the laser marking of papers and
plastics, as light protection, as pigment for corrosion protection and for the
preparation of pigment compositions and dry preparations.
13. (Original) Formulations comprising the surface-modified effect pigments
according to Claim 1.